

(c) The first three years of the Se. venth Five Year Plan (1985-86 to 1987-88) were not very favourable from the point of view of rainfall and wheather, However, rainfall and weather conditions have been very good during the current year and if the anticipated/ targeted production of cereals is achieved, the growth rate during 1985-86 to 1988-89 would compare favourably with those of earlier periods.

#### Re-vitalization of Gram Panchayats

360. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: SHRI P. N. SUKUL;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to re-vitalize the functioning of Gram Panchayats and related institutions in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes, if any drawn up on the subject;

(c) whether Government also intend to introduce suitable legislative measures for facilitating the implementation of the above schemes; and

(d) if so, by when legislative measures are expected to be brought forward? —

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes. The Government intend to re-vitalize the functioning of Gram Panchayats. The matter has been discussed in the rive workshops of District Magistrates/ Collectors on Responsive Administration held during December, 1987 to July, 1988. Report of the workshops on 'District Planning and Panchayati Raj' was further discussed in the Conference of Chief Secretaries held on-30th July, 1988. Recommendations of the Conference of Chief Secretaries are proposed to be discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers/National Development Council.

(c) and (d) These matters can be considered only after discussions at appropriate fora are over and in the light of conclusions emerging out of the discussions.

#### Services to Group Housing Societies in Mayor Vihar Extension

361. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA:

Will the Minsiter of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether DDA has decided to provide infrastructural facilities like water, sewerage, roads and electricity first before allotting land to cooperative group housing societies so that harasment to allottees is avoided;

(b) if so, the progress of work for peripheral services like sewerage wa ter, road and culvert etc. in Mayur Vihar Extension, Phase-II;

(c) whether DDA has handed over to DESU the third sub station site for 11 KV electric substation in Mayur Vihar Extension, Phase-II; and

(d) will DDA pay for any temporary augmentation work, as desired by DESU, for providing temporary electricity connection to SAMACHAR COOPERATIVE GROUP HOUSING Phase II which have already completed construction of flats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) DDA is required to provide developed land to Co-operative Group " -Housing Societies and the progress of various works is as follows:—

(i) Sewerage;

Scheme has already been approved by the MCD and the work is in prog-ress.

(ii) Water Supply;

Approval of the MCD for the etc

Scheme has been received recently. (iii)  
Roads;

1st stage construction of roads i.e. water bound macadam in the available site has been completed.

S.W. Drains:

A revised Scheme is being submitted to the MCD by the DDA.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) DDA has intimated that any temporary arrangement which can later on form part of the permanent arrangement will be acceptable to it and the payment for the same will be honoured by it.

#### Loss of foodgrains

362, SHRI P. N. SUKUL; SHRI  
SHIV PRASAD  
MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that food-grains worth about 30 crores of rupees were lost during transit and storage by Food Corporation of India during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated to find out the reasons for such losses;

(c) Weighment and counting of FCI during the period from 1964-85 to being examined; and

(d) the steps being taken to eliminate the factors responsible for such losses in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Q. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) The details of transit and storage shortages of foodgrains in-

curred by FCI during the period from 1984-85 to 1986-87 are given below:

Year	Purchase -Sales	Shortage qty. value	
1984-85	295.14	5 72	122.76
1985-86	368.40	5 95	136.12
1986-87	798.96	6 51	151.60
(Qty. in lakh MTs./ value in Rs. crores) Percentage of shortage over purchase sales			
1984-85	1.94		
1985-86	1.62		
1986-87	1.63		

The transit and storage losses arise due to a variety of reasons, such as vagaries of weather, deterioration in quality during storage, moisture loss, losses due to multiple handling and movement, etc. or due to theft and pilferage.

The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been asked to undertake a cost audit of FCI's operations.

(A) The Food Corporation of India has taken a number of steps to reduce losses on account of storage and transit shortages. Important measures taken in this regard are:

(a) Procurement of foodgrains within the specifications;

(b) Reduction in the quantum of filling in each bag;

(c) Weighment and counting of bags and installation of weigh bridges in depots having capacity of 5000 tonnes or more;

(d) Minimising the use of open wagons;

(e) Administrative measures such as tightening of security, intensifying surprise checks, quality control etc.